

April 27, 2012

Weekly Views

The Indianapolis Parole District #3 Office, in conjunction with Marion County Sheriff's Department (MCSO) Sex and Violent Offender Unit, participated in an activity to inspect Marion County sex offenders under parole supervision for compliance with parole expectations and their responsibility with all facets of sex offender registration, identification, and residency. Positive contacts were made with 219 offenders, and a total of eight arrests were made for registry violations. This is the second concentrated effort sponsored by Project COPS Grant monies awarded to MCSO for this purpose.

In recognition of National Crime Victims' Rights Week, each IDOC facility held a memorial service and tree planting ceremony to honor victims of crime in Indiana. The Indiana Department of Natural Resources generously donated 26 Bur Oak trees, and memorial signs were provided by PEN Products. Many facilities invited staff, offenders, and Community Advisory Board members to attend the ceremony. Pendleton Correctional Facility was visited by IDOC Director of Registration and Victim Services Brent Myers and Indiana Coalition Against Sexual Assault (INCASA) CEO Anita Carpenter, who was presented with a check from the facility for \$512 to support INCASA. Director Myers also made a check presentation to INCASA during their recent annual gala for \$12,667.58, which was raised through staff donations and offender fundraisers from multiple facilities across the state. (see photo below)

The Indiana Bureau of Motor Vehicles (BMV) processed 342 offenders within a three day period at the Putnamville Correctional Facility. Kelli Searing, Pre-Release Re-Entry Coordinator, was commended by BMV Mobile Unit staff for running an efficient and rule conforming ID operation, setting the standard for other IDOC facilities.

Commissioner Lemmon, Executive Staff, and re-entry and parole staff joined in celebrating the opening of Indianapolis Parole District #3's new office on the far-eastside of Indianapolis. Commissioner Lemmon thanks everyone involved in giving PD3 a new home, including the IDOC Construction Service Division, PEN Products, and the Indiana Department of Administration. (see photo left)



New Castle Correctional Facility's Volunteer Services Program and Culinary Arts Program provided an appreciation dinner for 60 community volunteers and recognized the Volunteer & Volunteer Organization of the Year.

Plainfield Correctional Facility completed their 10th Kairos Weekend where 42 volunteers spent four days instructing, sharing, and educating offenders. Over 90 staff, volunteers and offenders attended the closing graduation ceremony.

Logansport Juvenile Correctional Facility (LJCF) continued the Emanuel Project by having Jeanne Wines-Reed and Cynthia Bricking from the Project

provide art curriculum training to the LJCF teachers, as well as having the students work with different art mediums. The Emanuel Project brought a variety of art supplies worth thousands of dollars to be used with the students.

Westville Correctional Facility's first Inside/Outside college program celebrated their semester completion. 12 offenders and 16 students from the University of Notre Dame completed their course entitled, "Rethinking Crime and Justice: Explorations from the Inside Out." During their final meeting, each group presented their project and gave individual speeches about their experiences in the class. Reports from Notre Dame are that there will definitely be more Inside/Outside classes. Also present was a professor from Valparaiso University, who sees Valpo's participation in an Inside/Outside class in the near future.

It's not every day that one reaches the half century milestone, and no easy task to keep a secret when planning a surprise birthday party at a maximum-security facility but both happened at Wabash Valley Correctional Facility! Assistant Superintendent Kevin Gilmore said he was truly surprised and touched by Wabash Valley staff turnout for his 50th Birthday. His wife, Casework Manager Beverly Gilmore, pulled off the major surprise coup!

Miami Correctional Facility donated \$6,000 to several area charities. The money comes from the Community Involvement fund generated from the sale of Aramark's Fresh Favorites food. Six charities received \$1,000 a piece. Those charities include Miami County YMCA, Peru Public Library, Ole Olsen Memorial Theatre Children's Theater, Circus City Festival, Peru; Emmaus Mission Center, Logansport; and Kokomo Rescue Mission. Future monies generated by the food sales will be put into a fund and area not-for-profit agencies can apply to the facility for funds.

The Correctional Industrial Facility held a staff assembly advising staff of Department and facility information regarding new programs that are being implemented such as ICAN and the Department of Labor Maintenance Program. New security procedures were discussed along with overall facility goals and expectations. Staff were also advised about exciting upcoming activities for Correctional Employees Week.